

ARTICLE 147

Environmental Conservation Commission

- 147.01 Establishment
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- 147.03 Appointment of Members
- 147.04 Organization; Meetings

CROSS REFERENCES

Removal of natural resources from parks - See S.U. & P.S. 941.02 (a) (3)
Pollution of park waters - See S.U. & P.S. 941.03

147.01 ESTABLISHMENT.

A commission, to be known as the Environmental Conservation Commission of the City of Bethlehem, herein designated as the Commission, is hereby created. (Ord. 2262 §1. Passed 10/5/71.)

147.02 PURPOSE.

The purpose and objectives of the Environmental Conservation Commission shall be as follows:

(a) To conduct educational and scientific investigation of our streams and rivers and determine ways in which they can be improved and maintained for posterity.

(b) To develop standards for the City's streams and rivers that will preserve, their natural condition and to recommend these standards to Council for the enactment of legislation to establish controls and policies on enforcement consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth.

(c) To develop and recommend to Council joint agreements, mutually beneficial with area governments, that would establish consistent standards for control over our streams, rivers and air.

(d) To educate individuals, organizations and the public as to the value of maintaining controls and establishing programs for the preservation and utilization of our streams.

(e) To fulfill all the responsibilities of the Air Pollution Commission as provided by the Air Pollution Control Act of January 8, 1960, P.L. (1959) 2119, as amended.

(f) The Commission shall maintain liaison with appropriate Federal and State agencies having consultative or funding programs which could augment programs already structured by these higher bodies.

(g) The Commission shall make recommendations with respect to such issues as the use of chemical controls, recycling of waste materials, soil erosion and other issues related to natural resource preservation. (Ord. 2262 §2. Passed 10/5/71.)

147.03 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.

(a) The Environmental Conservation Commission shall be composed of five residents of the City who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of Council. One member so appointed shall serve for a term of one year, two members for a term of two years and two members for a term of three years. On the expiration of the term of any member a successor shall be appointed by the Mayor, on the advice and consent of Council to serve for a term of three years.

(b) Vacancies in the office of members of the Commission shall be filled by the Mayor with the advice and consent of Council for the unexpired term.

(c) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation.

(d) The work of the Commission shall have the full cooperation of the government of the City and to that end, one administration leader shall be appointed as nonvoting ex officio advisor to the Commission. He shall assist the Commission in creating, developing and implementing programs as outlined in Section 147.02 and further to serve as liaison with all departments of local government. (Ord. 2262 §3. Passed 10/5/71.)

147.04 ORGANIZATION; MEETINGS.

(a) The Environmental Conservation Commission shall, within thirty days after its initial organization and at subsequent annual meetings, elect a Chairman and Secretary whose responsibilities shall be those customarily attached to such offices. At the option of the Commission, a Vice-Chairman may be appointed.

(b) The Commission shall meet at least bimonthly. Special meetings may be called by any two members of the Commission.

(c) The time and place of meetings shall be designated by the Commission.

(d) A quorum at any meeting shall consist of a majority of the Commission. (Ord. 2262 §4. Passed 10/5/71.)

(e) Because of the extensive responsibility given to this body in the environmental field, the Commission may establish working committees, whose members need not be residents of the City of Bethlehem, in specific fields such as air pollution, streams control, etc. (Ord. 2371 §1. Passed 4/3/73.)

(f) The Commission shall submit minutes of all meetings it holds to the Mayor and Council and from time to time report and make recommendations for legislation and programs to both branches of local government. (Ord. 2262 §4. Passed 10/5/71.)